LETTERS - M DRAWER 26 MEETING LINCOLN

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Meeting Lincoln

Original letters describing encounters with the 16th President of the United States

Surnames beginning with

M

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.02190

Martin, Mrs. W. M. Ottawa, Ill.
L.-D. Debates

1931
Belle Fourche, May 11,

Mr. H. T. Terry.
Dear Sir

Your letter asking for information in regard to the Lincoln and Douglas debates was received in due time. I presume you have given up ever hearing from me but I have not been well for some time and writing has become quite a task for me and I am prone to put it off from time to time

I doubt having any information that would add to your collection. Of course at my age I have forgotten much but will do the best I can.

I was eighteen years old when Lincoln and Douglas met in the

city of Ottawa Ills for their first-
joint-debate. Of course it created
a great-deal of excitement all over
the country and many demonstr-
rations were made by the people
and the young folks were very
enthusiastic over the great event
and of course wished to do some-
thing to show their patriotism
I lived on a farm and the
young men of the surround-
ing country organized a horse-
back brigade each asking his
favorite lady to accompany him. The
ladies were dressed in red white
and blue and each one represented
one of the states. I remember I was
Miss Illinois. We were very proud
when we marched into the city and
were received with loud applause
There were many other demonstra-
tions of course and an immense crowd

I quote from the circulas.

"Seven ~~historic towns~~ Illinois towns were made historic by these meetings. Not one external circumstance that could add significance to these occasions was wanting. For thirty miles around the country ~~the country~~ emptied itself into each town. The multitudes came on foot in waggons by the train load. They camped in the open field to await the great day. They marched they sang they drank and made merry."

I was able to hear very little of the debate and have forgotten what I did hear. Of course I saw Lincoln and Douglas.

I have seen it stated at different times that the first debate occured at Freeport but that is a mistake and I am glad to correct it.

In 1908 the 50th anniversary of the debate in Ottawa was held. A Semi-Centannial celebration of the great occasion and there was a circular issued at that time which I have preserved. I happened to be in Chicago at the time visiting my daughter. I was unable to be present but later visited a sister who lived in Ottawa and heard the debate and she secured the circular and a ribbon badge which none but those who were Survivor's of the occasion received. I have them both at present;

If my poor effort will be of any use to you you are very welcome to it. I will say that Mrs Esther Martin of Hot Springs is the wife of my grand son and he also works in the Sanitarium or did. He was a soldier in the World war.

Yours Sincerely, Lorella Martin.
(Mrs W. M. Martin)

Matthew, John B. Springfield, Ill. Played with Robert Funeral Blue Mound, Ill.

J. B. MATTHEW. M. D.
LOCATED OVER THE STATE BANK OF BLUE MOUND
BLUE MOUND, ILLINGIS

July - 3 - 1931,

Mr Howard R. Terrey
9528 Wisteria St,
Bustleton
Philadelphia
Penna,

My Dear Sir

Yours of June. 27. - 31, at hand, and I am very glad to tell you some thing about Abraham Lincoln, I lived with my Parents 9 miles south east of Springfield before and during the Civil War, my Father was a good Friend of Honest Abe, & before Coal was discovered we use to haul wood to Springfield I was Born March - 2 - 1850, & was about the same age of Bob. Lincoln, & use to play with him, I was at all the Rally's and speaking, when Abe ran for Pres. I was at his Funeral and in 1876 I was in Ford's Theator where Lincoln was shot, I think that Lincoln was the grandest man that ever lived he was taken away to soon he was a Friend to the North & to the South to the Blue and the Gray and to the Black men (over

and were every one for whome he had done some Sobing act. should bring but one Flower to his Grave, to day he would sleep beneath a wilderness of flowers there was. there is no grander man than he, may you and I must meet him in that Land of the sweet by + by I think, Sir, that I have geben you what you want, if there is any thing else hyou want. please write me soon have a wonderful man in Springfield V. Lindsley the Poet in the 6. Hundred block South 5 St. you write to him and ask him to send you the poem when Lincoln walked alone at mid night while he did not know Lincoln personley his good Father Dr. V. T. Lindsley knew him quite well, he has many poems on Lincoln, may I ask you what busniess you are in we use to have a Banker in Blue Mound by the name of John Terry he passed on in 1926. I am very glad to have this opertunely of writing to you about my Friend Lincoln I will give you some of Names + addresses that new. Lincoln, Yours Truely

Jhon. B. Matthew

Rev: W. S. Matthew
1880. San Pedro Ave
Berkeley Calif

Hon. William T. Vandaver,
Taylorville Ill
Christian Co Ill,

Hon. E. A. Hall Springfield Ill.
Bank. S. W. corner of square,

Mr. E. A. Baxter Pawnee Ill,
Vet of ~~Rebel~~ War.

Matthew, J. B. Springfield Blue Mound, Ill.
friends - burial

Blue Mound Ill.
Nov. 25 - 1901

Miss Sibrian

I understand you would like the Name and Address of People who knew Lincoln, I was aquainted with him + was living at Rotten Hill Ill. with my Father when he ran for President I have ben to his Office maney times with my Father, we use to ~~travel~~ travel to him before he was Elected, I was at maney of the Big Rallys

I was at Lincoln's Funeral
in Springfield Ill. I am
now living in Blue Mound
Ill at the age of 81. I was
well acquainted with Bob,
when we were Boys.
If there is any more
you wish to know
please write me.
Yours Truely
Dr J. B. Matthew,

Matthew, W. S. Springfield, - Reception Berkeley, Calif

TELEPHONE THORNWALL 2201
REV. W. S. MATTHEW
1860 SAN PEDRO AVENUE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

July 20-1931.

Dear Mr. Ferry:

Your favor of July 8th reached me in due course. My reply has been delayed because of health conditions. I have not been well for some months, but am now grateful to report continued improvement. My "Recollections of Lincoln" herewith enclosed are copied from the Central Christian Advocate of Feb. 7-1923. That in there was a copy of an address I delivered on Shipboard Feb. 12-1922, while travelling toward Palestine and Egypt. Yes, Dr. J.D. Matthew is my brother. He has been a practicing physician longer than I have been trying to preach the Gospel, that is over 50 years.

Very sincerely yours,
W.S. Matthew

TELEPHONE THORNWALL 2201

REV. W. S. MATTHEW
1880 SAN PEDRO AVENUE
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

A BOY'S RECOLLECTIONS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. by Rev. W. S. Matthew D.D.

I was born and reared on a farm about ten miles southeast of Springfield, Illinois.

One day in the leafy month of June, 1860, I was with my father down in the old field. "Is that thunder," he said suddenly, " or is it the sound of cannon firing?" Up to that hour I never had heard the sound of cannon, but I said to him, "It does not sound like thunder to me."

Just then we saw two swift horsemen coming down the lane from the direction of Springfield, and father managed to reach the road as they were passing. In answer to his query they said,"Lincoln has been nominated at the Chicago Convention; his home town has gone wild with excitement, and they are trying to burn up all the powder they can find in celebrating the event." Off came my father's cap, and swinging it round his head he shouted, "Hurrah for old Abe!"

Two weeks later, may be, I was with my father in Springfield on some errand of business. All of a sudden he said to me,"Do you want to see Lincoln?" Like any boy I answered, "What for?" Bending his head toward me, he ssid, "Well, as you know, the Republican National Convention has nominated Lincoln for President of the United States. I know him slightly, and admire him greatly. His friends are giving him a little reception in the State House this afternoon, and I thought I would like to go round with the others and shake hands with him." Of course I wanted to go.

We climbed the broad steps and entered by the south door of the building which is now the County Court House. Turning to the right from the main hall, we entered a rather large room, which in after years I knew very well as the office of the Hon. Newton Bateman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Passing through this room, we entered another somewhat larger one. There in the middle of the floor, flanked by two or three friends on either side, stood the tallest man I ever saw,-- so he seemed to me then, and memory has not allowed the picture to grow less.

As my father stepped forward I was at his heels. I think I was barefoot, but I cannot be sure. As father grasped Mr. Lincoln's extended hand in admiring congratulation, I saw a smile light up that gaunt and never-to-be-forgotten face, and I heard in manly tones the great man's friendly greeting to the plain farmer who was proud to be his friend. And then suddenly for me the world stood still. Stepping before him in boyish amaze, I looked up along the full height of that mighty form and saw the long unusual neck, that like a rugged pillar, supported his head. It was not slim, but it was not too large. It had a strange color and texture. It was not swarthy, and yet it was very dark in color. At this great distance of time, I venture to say the color was between that of dark bronze and pale blue steel. One would not dare to say it was coarse; yet there was that about its very texture that gave one the feeling that it was as tough as leather, yet as fine as steel. The jaw was strong rather than massive. The lips were full and mobile. The broad, high, brow was surmounted by a great shock of dark coarse hair that seemed never to have been combed or brushed. Yet

TELEPHONE THORNWALL 2201

REV. W. S. MATTHEW

1880 SAN PEDRO AVENUE

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

it did not seem out of place. And then his eyes--who that once saw them could ever forget? Deep set under those shaggy brows, when his mind was not stirred, they were simply dark and fathomless depths; but when he smiled those eyes were more warm and tender than the loving eyes of woman. And when he was stirred in public speech the eyes of Lincoln could blaze with unexpected power, "Shooting out sharp arrows of the mighty." All this was photographed instantly upon my boyish mind as upon a sensitized plate.

It was but a moment I stood there. He took my right hand in that marvelous right hand of his, with fingers whose length and character so profoundly impressed Douglass Volk, the artist, and smiled as I looked up into his face.

Four months later, perhaps, I think it must have been in October, I was again in Springfield. I seem to have been alone. How that could be I cannot tell, for in those days country boys were not allowed to be in town and alone at night. Be that as it may, I was in Springfield that crisp autumn evening after dark, and I followed the "Lincoln Wide-awakes" who, with a splendid band of music, marched through the streets to Mr. Lincoln's residence to serenade him. The occasion of this demonstration I do not know; possibly they had "heard from Maine." Mr. Lincoln, I remember was bareheaded, and he looked like one who had just been aroused from a deep study of profound things. His appearance was the occasion of hearty cheering by the crowd, and more music by the band.

There was then a small elm tree growing beside the front door walk and just inside the picket fence. Mr. Lincoln put his left hand up on the side of this sapling and began to speak. The smoking kerosene torches carried by the "Wide-awakes" shone round and gave a weird aspect to the scene.

"It was very kind of you, my neighbors and friends, to come round and greet me in this way tonight, and I thank you for it. I congratulate these marchers on their fine appearance, and I congratulate the band on their excellent music." So he was saying in quiet neighborly fashion to the people gathered about his door yard, while they w re joking and chaffing as only trusted neighbors can. And this world's Greatheart was at home among his near neighbors and friends.

Then quietly, naturally, he turned to discuss for a brief moment the issuesof the campaign. "Boys", he was saying, -- I can recall distinctly his words, and the homey, friendly tone,-- "Boys, if I should be defeated, which I do not fear, but if I should not be elected, and if I should die, when another four years rolls round you will have another candidate whom you will follow as loyally and enthusiastically as you have followed me -- and he will be elected:; for our cause, it is just and right, -- it must prevail."

Now think what he had said in that five minutes friendly talk to his "Neighbors." Then of his saying in October that he did not fear defeat, when many of his warmest admirers considered his election extremely doubtful, to say the least. And that other word so strange in a political speech " if I should die", did he already sense the dark unknown tragedy? Four months later at a flag raising in Pennsylvania, while on his way to Washington to take the oath as President he would say, "And rather than have these principles fail -- I was about to say I would rather be assassinated." Did he know, -- marvelous prophet that he was, and political guide, -- did he know dimly even then the fate to which he was marching unafraid? "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness

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REV. W. S. MATTHEW

1880 SAN PEDRO AVENUE

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

in the right as God gave him to see the right," so he lived and wrought, so he triumphed at the last.

* * * * * * * * *

Five long and weary years have passed, and again I am with father down in the old field. It was a soft day in April; there is gentle weeping from the sky, but all about us is the pulsing of new life. The nation under God has come to that "new birth of Freedom" of which Lincoln dreamed, and for which the patriots fought and died. The war is ended, the country reunited. The "rail splitter" of the west has taken his rightful place among the mighty leaders of men in all the ages. By the side of Washington in the heart of all America, the world places him at once among the Constructive Statesmen of all time.

Delirious with joy, the rejoicing people dare to speak of him as "Savior of the Nation", prophetic leader of the millions of [illegible] bondmen out into the "promised land" of freedom and liberty. The war drums no longer throb, the soldiers are coming home. Peace, profoundest peace now fills the land.

But hark! Again we hear the distant sound of cannon. Can it be? We cound the sounds; yes, they are firing "minute guns" yonder at Springfield, the home of Lincoln. What can it mean? Again the swift coming horseman down the lane, and again my father at the roadside asking the news. "Lincoln has been shot, and died this morning early at the capitol." "Impossible" gasps my father, but the horseman assures him it is even so. His chin falls upon his breast --"Lincoln is dead!" Tears roll down his face, and a groan fills the universe for me. I cannot understand.

Years afterward I read Edna Deane Proctor's poem describing the grave of Lincoln amid the prairies of Illinois, and at last I understood.

"Still for the world, through the ages,
Wreathing with glory his brows,
He shall be Liberty's Savior,
Freedom's Jerusalem thou."

Mattison, Olin Fisk L.-D. Debates Evanston, Ill.

Freeport, Ill.

REV. OLIN FISK MATTISON
718 CLARK STREET
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

July 9, 1931.

Mr. Howard K. Jerry
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir: I beg to submit my recollections of Abraham Lincoln.

I can simply say that I was present at the debate held in the city of Freeport, Aug. 27, 1858, between Mr. Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. I regarded them as great and noble men. I shook hands with them, and spoke to them and they spoke to me. I was but a lad of 16 and did not know much of either man —

Douglas was in a room filled with people and shaking hands with everyone who entered. As I came to the door and hesitated he put out his hand and pulled me in and said "Come in young man Come in" He had a dejeuner his hand and the room seemed filled with smoke.

Mr. Lincoln was quite alone when I was introduced and as I was presented he rose slightly, bowed his head and said "How do you do Sir." He was well dressed. Courteous and dignified in his bearing, and I came away feeling that I

Rev. Olin Fisk Mattison
718 Clark Street
Evanston, Illinois

had been in the presence of
a high minded gentleman and
acted a Capable leader of men.
I can visualize the whole
scene as it took place after a lapse
of seventy three years.
I am over eighty-nine years
old. I was ever an admirer
of Honest Abe Lincoln and keep
in thorough sympathy with his
views on the question of slavery.
He deputed to me to be a man
named after an important
speech.

Most Sincerely Yours
Olin F. Mattison

New Era March 8th 1931

Howard E Terry
Bustleton, Penna

Dear Sir your letter received. No I never saw Pres. Lincoln but I had a great love for him. I was Born in Scotland Nov 24. 1841 came to U. S. in 1854. when the first call was made for volunteers April 15th 1861 I enlisted in the Chicago Highland Gaurd we were the first Co ready for service in the State and sent to Springfield to Gaurd the State Arsnel. first chance after we got there I went to see the House where the Pres- used to live. I reinlisted and was mustered into the 3 years Service June 4th 1861 in same Co we were then Co E 19th Ill Inf (we were not in a Regt in the 3 Months Service) The later part Sept we were sent to Louisville Ky and after a little fighting we went into camp at Elisabeth Town Ky (I had been reading every thing I could get hold of about Lincoln and some said he was born there.) first chance I had I went to see his Birthplace, hunted up an old Settler he Told me Lincolns used to live there and he showed me the little old log Cabin where they lived but he said he wasent Born there. he Told me where he was Born but I have forgotten the name of the Creek) our next camp was at Bacon Creek I was then acting as a Scout and was sent to where he was Born I hunted up the owner of the place he was living on the place but not in the same Cabin

I asked him if he was there this was the Cabin where the Pres- was born. he said he was I then asked if there had been any changes made since he got it. he said there had been very little changes made the lower logs had rotted and he had replaced it with new ones there had been one window in the House and he had put in a half Sash window and had put flat rocks under some poles when there bottoms had rotted looking from the door to the left end was the fire place which took up about 1/2 of the end it was made of rocks and clay about 7 feet and split sticks and clay the rest of the way up. on the right at far side of the room was the Bedstead it was made by putting a Post at foot of the Bed and running a pole from that Post to a space beteen the logs at the end of the House and another pole from that post to a space between the logs at the side of the House then there was split baards run from the side pole to the side of the House and another pole from the post to the end of the House and all fastened with wooden pins there was a smal bed on the other side made the same way; and both beds filled with Forest leaps no Bed Ticks. part of upstairs was covered with split Boards and on them 4 poles pinned to the boards with wooden pins for the bed and filled in between with leaves. the stairway was a pole with 1½ inch augar Holes and wooden pins drove through about on each side of the pole; some flat stones was sunk level with the ground in front of the fireplace was all the door was made of split Boards with wooden hinges and a wooden latch. hopeing this will be satisfactory I remain yours in S.C. & L. D. McArthur. New Era, Oregon

McClenahan, Mrs. Margaret A. Galesburg, Ill. Toulon, Ill.
L.-D. Debate

Toulon, Ill.
Oct 6, 1932.

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir:-

Recently, I saw a list of names in a Peoria paper of residents of Illinois who saw Abraham Lincoln. I would like to add to this list the name of my mother, Mrs. Margaret A. McClenahan, 87 years of age, living in Toulon, Ill. She saw Lincoln & heard the Lincoln-Douglas debate on Knox College campus, Galesburg, Ill in 1858

Very truly
(Miss) Edna McClenahan

McConiha, Joseph Washington, D.C. Zanesville, Ohio
regiment reviewed

" I saw Lincoln "

Full Name Joseph McConiha

Present Address 442 Hickory St. Zanesville

Date of Birth Year 1846 Month [illegible] Day 19th

Place of Birth [illegible] Ohio

Where you saw Lincoln [illegible] my Regt. [illegible]

When you saw Lincoln [illegible] 20th 1865

Remarks: - [illegible]

McConiha, Joseph
442 Hickory St.

Zanesville, Ohio

-32

LINCOLN NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT
Referred to
REC'D AUG 27 1932
Answered
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

McConiha, Joseph · Zanesville, Ohio

Aug 30 - 32

LINCOLN NATIONAL
Referred to
Rec'd SEP 2 1932
Answered
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

[illegible]

Dear Mr. [illegible]

[illegible] me will thank you for
[illegible] and me
[illegible]
[illegible] me have been
[illegible] yet we are going
[illegible]

So except me [illegible]
[illegible] town
[illegible]

412 Hickory St
Janesville

A Brief Sketch of the Life of Joseph McConiha

Written by Rev. J. A. Hopkins

1981

Joseph McConiha
129th O. V. I.
174th O. V. I.

Dedicated to his wife, Anna McConiha

On a beautiful pinnacle by the side of the Big Grade, near the prosperous city of Barnesville, Ohio, in Belmont County, stood a small one-room log house built according to the wilderness style.

In this little palatial home, when the stars were scattering their silvery beams, on the 19th of September, 1846, Joseph McConiha, the subject of this sketch made his advent into the world. The new-comer received a very cordial reception and soon became the charm of the home. Little did the fond mother dream that the little infant who lay so gently in her arms, would ever be one of the brave soldiers in one of the great wars of the world. Little did she think that her little babe would pass the eighty-fourth mile-stone in the history of his life, but history reveals these facts.

Joseph, as he was familiarly known, lived in this one-room house until he was 8 years old, when his parents moved to the small town of Chauncy in Athens Co., Ohio.

In this town environments were somewhat different, but he soon adjusted himself to the prevailing customs and became one of the boys of the town, indulging freely in the innocent pursuits of the childlife.

Having a combination of Irish and Dutch

blood in his veins, he possessed the push of the Dutch and the pep of the Irish, and always entered into the contest to win. His educational advantages were indeed very limited. He spent one month in school.

His parents were not of the wealthy class and felt that they could not afford to send their boy to school, but the subject of this sketch possessing a good degree of Irish and mother wit, has been able to face the responsibilities of life and solve many of the perplexing problems he has had to meet.

At a very early age, he was compelled to seek employment to assist in supporting his parents and his sisters. While laboring on a farm in Ross Co., Ohio, he received a message from his home in Chauncy, Ohio, stating that his mother was about to pass away, and he immediately went to the depot, but without money for his transportation. As he stood at the depot weeping, two gentlemen approached him and made inquiry as to why he was weeping. He informed them and their sympathetic hearts were touched, and money was soon provided for his trip home. Before reaching the house where his mother lay at the point of death, he kneeled in prayer, asking God to spare her life until he could reach home.

When he entered the home, he found his mother alive. His prayer was answered.

He was 14 years old when this event took place. Later on he was employed by the salt company in the town where he lived and labored in this capacity, supporting his two sisters, his father and mother having passed away.

In 1861, after his brothers had enlisted in the army and were in camp at Athens, Ohio, at Camp Wool, he went to the Camp and wanted to enlist, but the captain of the 18th Regiment, Co. H, informed him that he was too young and to return to his home and he was sorely disappointed.

His life from his birth to his 16th year had compared favorably with the lives of the generality of boys. Up to this time nothing very exciting had transpired in his life, but a new day was dawning; the sun of a strange dispensation was rising and he was facing the most sensational period of his life. When the news flashed over the country that war had been declared between the North and the South, the subject of this sketch no doubt dreamed of the day when he would hear the bugle call to battle and march with stately step to the scenes of military activity. His anticipations were soon realized. The news was heralded over the country that they were enrolling soldiers for the army of the North and he

immediately made his way to the little country school house and enrolled as a soldier of Uncle Sam's army. He was ordered to report at Marietta, Ohio, to be examined on the following Monday after he had registered, and he was there, with his veins filled with rich young blood and his step like the step of an athlete and his heart beating as regularly as a new clock. He was examined and passed the examination and was ordered to report at Cleveland, Ohio, where his company was organized on the 10th of Aug. 1863. While waiting at Marietta for orders, to go to Cleveland, the news came of Morgan's raid, and he with 200 other soldier boys proceeded down the beautiful Ohio on the old Star Light to meet Morgan and his army. While in camp at Letart Falls, Ohio, at midnight, word came that Morgan and his army were approaching and the commander of the 200 soldiers ordered each soldier to secure a fence rail and fire up the old Star Light and proceed to Ravenswood, W. Va. The command was immediately obeyed and the company went down the river to Ravenswood, and remained there until seven o'clock in the morning when the government gun boats appeared on the scene and the little company of 200 soldiers joined the gun boats in pursuit of Morgan and captured 800 prisoners at Buffington Island and sent them to Columbus, Ohio. The skirmish on Buffington Island was the first experience of our young soldier in the great Civil War of 1861-65, and this initial experience intensified his desire for greater military achievements and when the order came to report at Cleveland, he was anxious to go and took transportation for that city, where the 129th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized August 10, 1863, and he became a member of Co. A. under Capt. Steadman of Athens, Ohio.

On the 10th of August, 1863, the 129th Regiment received orders to start for Camp Nelson, Ky. On the 20th of August, his regiment left Camp Nelson for Cumberland Gap, and at this place he had his second experience in the activities of war when his regiment assisted in the capture of a Rebel garrison when two thousand Rebel soldiers were captured.

On the 1st of December, his regiment was ordered to move, and in a few days he was in another engagement on Knoxville Road, and in fact throughout the month of December, his regiment was moving toward the enemy's lines and engaging in some skirmishes. The time had arrived for his regiment to be mustered out, and in March

1864, he received an honorable discharge, and returned to his home in Athens County, Ohio, and again engaged in the pursuits of life. He served his time as a soldier; he had received an honorable discharge; he had experienced some of the unpleasant activities of the soldier's life, but the old time military zeal still existed, and the desire to answer the bugle call and engage in greater battles still remained, and an ambition to promote the fundamental principles of good government was still there, and on the spot where the Athens County Courthouse now stands, he enlisted the second time and was ordered to Camp Chase, Ohio, where the 174th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry was organized August 18, to September 21, 1864.

He was made a member of Co. D, under Capt. Combs. The 174th Regiment moved to Nashville, Tenn., and from there to Murfreesboro, and remained there until Oct. 27. From Murfreesboro, the regiment moved to Decatur, Ala. Later, the regiment returned to Murfreesboro, where it engaged in the battle of Overall's Creek. This was a fierce conflict but our young soldier passed through the scenes of this battle unharmed. After this the regiment engaged in the battle of The Cedars, so called because of the great number of cedar trees. In this battle our young soldier was in the thickest of the fight, but the hand of providence led him safely through this conflict.

It was in the Battle of Cedars, Dec. 7, 1864, that he saw many of his comrades fall, also their Major, Benjamin Reed, aged 24, and his horse, both shot down. I was escort to his burial at Murfreesboro, Tenn. Later he was brought to Zanesville and interred in Woodlawn Cemetery. Just last Summer I visited his grave. A tall monument marks his last resting place.

While holding the fort at Murfreesboro the regiment's food supplies were nearly exhausted, and for three weeks the soldiers subsisted on one pint of mush per day, but this experience never dampened the ardor of our young soldier, who was too brave to surrender, and too noble to give up.

At Nashville, Tenn. the regiment drew five day's rations and then moved to Columbia, Tenn. and had a sharp engagement with Hood's army, and captured what was left of it. On January 17th, the army moved down the Tennessee River and up the Ohio to Cincinnati, Ohio, and from there proceeded to Washington, D. C. and remained in camp there until the 21st of February. At Washington, the regiment

was reviewed by President Lincoln.

While the regiment was encamped at Washington, the subject of this sketch experienced a wonderful sensation. He had the privilege of shaking hands with Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States. The regiment was ordered to Fort Fisher, N. C., and arrived there Feb. 23rd, and then moved to Moorehead City, and arrived there on the 24th of Feb. Later, the regiment took part in the battle of Wise's Fork, at Kinston, N. C. This was the last battle in which our soldier boy fought. On the 28th of June, at Charlotte, N. C. he was mustered out, and received an honorable discharge.

This concluded the military activities of one of Ohio's soldier boys who appreciated the privilege of wearing the coat of blue and the brass buttons and marching under the stars and stripes and defending the principles of the greatest country in the world. It is quite impossible to describe in detail, in this brief sketch, every battle in which he fought and the suffering connected with his military activities, but now at the age of 84 years, he can look back over the scenes of his army activites with great pleasure, and make the declaration that he had finished his military course and had gained the victory.

Many times he faced the bursting shells from the enemy's ranks; many times he witnessed the falling of his comrades; many times he heard the music of the flying balls from the enemy's guns, but passed safely through every battle, and though at times sleeping under the snow, and many times suffering from want of food and water, he remained in the fight until the victory was won. He was at Goldsboro, N. C. when the news came that President Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated April 14th, 1865. This was sad news to the boys in blue, and in fact, the Country was in sorrow.

After his discharge from the army, he returned to his home in Athens Co. Ohio, and secured employment on the Hocking Canal, transporting salt and coal to Logan, Ohio. His life after the war was one of activity. He followed various pursuits for a livelihood, and always put forth a desperate effort to succeed in the various vocations of life. He assisted in the building of the Narrow Gauge Ry., the T. & O. C. Ry., and the Hocking Valley Ry. He saw the first B. & O. train that went over the line from Bellaire to Cambridge, Ohio. He was not afraid of manual labor and he believed in earning his bread by the sweat of his

brow, and he is still of that conviction.

The subject of this sketch is not only characterized by the spirit of patriotism, but he is interested in the activities of the church. Just recently he presented to the Free Methodist Church of which he is a member, a very beautiful American Flag.

The presentation service was a very impressive one. He is an honorary member of the W. M. S. of the Free Methodist Church, and of the W. C. T. U.

In 1929-30 he and his wife who is 69 years old, were engaged in the Home Dept. work of the F. M. Sunday School. They made 566 sick calls and visits, and distributed more than 12,000 pages of literature. In the last five years he has attended 91 funerals. A life of ministry is a remarkable life, and he who devotes his time and energy in ministering to others is to be commended.

His vision reaches back over the span of 84 years, and many are the pleasant memories of those wonderful years. Beautiful scenes have been observed in the course of his eventful life, and sometimes shadows have intervened, and the day did not appear so bright. Sometimes the bosom of the calm sea has been disturbed by the fierce winds, and sometimes the white billows have driven his little vessel to the rock bound coast, but he has passed through 84 years of sunshine and shadows, storms and calm, unharmed. Sorrow has made occasional visits into his home. Death has robbed him of two noble wives and other relatives, but he has borne his grief like a hero. He has wended his way from infancy to the 84th mile stone in life. He has come from the base of the mountain of life to almost the summit. He looks back with pleasure on his life as a soldier, and some of his most delightful meditations are vitally connected with his army life. He now, at the age of 84, delights to march under the stars and stripes and the sound of the bugle quickens his step. He takes delight in relating his experience at Raleigh, N. C. when the news came that Lee had surrendered.

Raleigh was noted for its pine trees and tar kilns. When the soldiers heard of Lee's surrender, they set fire to one of the tar kilns and the country was illuminated by the light of the burning kiln for a great distance. They threw their caps and rejoiced greatly that the war was over.

One of his great ambitions is to mount one of the modern airplanes, and take a flying trip toward the scenes of the pleiades, or westward to the land of flowers.

He still enjoys the melody of the beautiful sweet singing birds, and takes great delight in the flowers that bloom so beautifully.

At present he resides in a small cottage on Brighton Blvd., Zanesville, Ohio.

He and his excellent wife are enjoying the pleasures of life, and looking forward with bright anticipations to a life of supreme bliss and everlasting felicity.

Composed by a Confederate Soldier

It was in the year of '61,
When those bloody battles first begun.
The North and South once wore a yoke,
But now the tie is forever broke.

Alas, alas, my boys we learn
The scale with you is forced to turn,
And you, my boys of Tennessee,
All into action soon must be.

Oh, my boys, to see you start
And leave so many broken hearts,
To leave your wives and sweethearts, dear,
Poor broken hearts doth swim in tears.

Last Monday morning at the break of day
Orders came to march away
To the battle fields where we must fly,
Where the noble and the brave must die.

We fought them hard till Saturday night,
When we had the Yankees put to flight,
But at length old Abe he rained a shower,
And did our Army overpower.

A flag of surrender then came up,
Which was to us a bitter cup;
Then we heard our General say,
"O ground your arms, they have gained the day."

'Twas on the fair banks of the Cumberland,
Lies the buddies of ten thousand men.
Some did weep and some did cry,
And some from wounds were forced to die.

The roaring cannon hush thy mouth,
Peace once more to the Sunny South.
On wings of Love, Oh, let me fly
To the girl I love before I die.

McGraw, John Wesley Indianapolis, Ind. Fountain City, Ind.
speech

90

"I Saw Lincoln"

Full Name John Wesley McGraw

Present Address Fountain City Indiana

Date of Birth Year 1842 Month July Day 28

Place of Birth Near Chillicothe, Highland Co. Ohio.

Where you saw Lincoln Indianapolis

When you saw Lincoln at a political speaking

Remarks: - just before he was elected president.

McGraw, John Wesley

Fountain City, Ind.

Nodor, Ind.
Aug. 19, 1932

Muncie Press:

I saw in the Muncie Evening Press that you wanted to know of the oldest man in Ind. who had heard and saw Abraham Lincoln. My grandfather, who is past 96 years of age has seen and heard him. His name and address is as follows:

John Mc Graw,
Fountain City,
Indiana.

McKinley, John F. Indianapolis, Ind. enroute to Washington Lebanon, Ind.

McKinley

Sept 8 32

Lincon National Life Foundation

In February 1861 I was in Indianapolis abraham Lincon On His way to the White House Spoke from an Iron Parapet outside two windows on the Washington St side of the Bates House Hotel that Now is the Claypool there is a Bronze Tablet under where He spoke. the Space from the Claypool to the Lincon and from there to the occidental Hotels was full of People He spoke I think about 20 minutes there was 2 other men Standing with him I dont Remember

the exact date I was there
I am 86 years old
John F McKinley
Lebanon RR 6
Boone County Ind

I was a member of Company
G 51st Indiana Vol for 4 years
and 3 months. I enlisted in Oct
1861 was Finally Discharged on
January 12 1866

Merrill, Harding I. Monmouth Speech Wichita, Kans.

D. L. SWEENEY, Adjutant — J. H. YARYAN, Quartermaster — A. N. BLACKMAN, Patriotic Instructor

Garfield Post Number 25

Department of Kansas

Grand Army of the Republic

HARDING I. MERRILL, Commander

Wichita, Kansas Sept 9th 1930

Mr Howard K Terry
Bustleton Phila. Pa.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to Yours of Aug 30th. The article you mention had a mistake I did not belong to Lincolns body-guard; but in 1860 When Lincoln made an address in my home town Monmouth Warren Co Ill myself with 18 or 20 other boys sat on the platform and at the close of the speech Lincoln turned & us and made a speech telling us to love our Country and respect the flag adding "You may be needed". In Dec 64 at 15 yrs of age I enlisted in 47 Ill Co H. 16 Army Corps. my folder enclosed will give you full information. I am a Candidate next year for Natl Commander and any help you might render would be greatly appreciated. Thanking you for your interest

Yours Sincerely

Harding I. Merrill

HARDING I. MERRILL
WICHITA, KANSAS
Candidate for
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
of G. A. R.

Harding I. Merrill

At The State G.A.R. Encampment held at Chanute, Kansas, May 12 to 15, 1930, Harding I. Merrill, Past Department Commander of Kansas, was unanimously endorsed for National Commander-in-Chief of G.A.R. Also endorsed by W.R.C., of The G.A.R. Ladies, of G.A.R. Daughters, of U.V. Sons of U.V. and The Auxiliary of Sons. The above ask that the Great State of Kansas be so honored.

Comrade Harding I. Merrill enlisted at the age of 15 in Company H, 47th Illinois Infantry. This company was recruited at Monmouth, Warren County, Illinois, being 110 strong, he being the youngest member of his Company. Was mustered in at Springfield, Illinois. Served in the 1st Division, 2nd Brigade, known as The Bald Eagle Brigade of The 16th Army Corp. Commanded by Major General A. J. Smith.

After the surrender of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakly this Regiment was marched to Montgomery, Alabama, where the 47th Illinois was ordered to Selma, Alabama. Col. Magee, who was in command, appointed Harding I. Merrill Chief of The Orderlies and he also had charge of Prevost Marshall detail. Was mustered out at Selma, Alabama, January, 1866, and received his honorable discharge at Springfield, Illinois, where Col. Magee presented him a sword for meritorious service.

Miller,....

Minneapolis, Minn.

OFFICERS
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RES. PHONE DREXEL 4271
BYRON J. MOSIER . . . . . ADJUTANT
MICHAEL PICKAR . . QUARTERMASTER
T. C. CLARK, M. D. . . . . SURGEON
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MINNESOTA SOLDIERS HOME

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT
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ANDREW G. DUNLOP . . . MINNEAPOLIS
GLEN H. DAVIS, SECRETARY . . ST. PAUL

April 15, 1931.

Mr.Howard K.Terry,

Bustleton, Philadelphia. Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of April 4th, G.A.R. Veterans at this Home who knew or saw Ex-President Abraham Lincoln, beg to advise

Robert Miller
E.J.Ingolls
J.C.Finney
A.C.Silverthorn
L.E.Hilton

state they have either seen or talked with him.

Yours truly,

Byron J. Mosier

BYRON J.MOSIER,
Adjutant.

Miller, Jasper L. D. Debates, Charleston, Ill. Assumption, Ill.

O! Yes! I have seen Mr Lincoln many times both when he canvassed the state with Douglas for U.S. Senator and again when they ran for presidency. Shook hands with him and heard him speech. Heard the "joint-Debate" at Charleston with Douglas.

I will never forget that there two notable men came to Mattoon one town the evening or day before the debate. In the evening before they held levees at their respective hotels Lincoln at the Penny Cranial home - named by a citizen of Penn Thomas McKee who came to Mattoon from that State Excitement ran high large crowds from every where came to pay homage to their leaders. A bunch of us boys made the rounds between the hotels to see what we could see. At the Penn house a hall came in the front stairway and Mr Lincoln came to the front of the veranda and speaking to us boys lined up on the side walk said come up boys and shake hands I was 14. bare headed and bare footed and when he came to me he took my right hand in his and putting his left hand on my head he said as he looked at my feet

I wish I could go bare footed. I will never forget the thrill that went through me like an electric shock.

The next day two great parades headed by their respective candidates drove to Charleston 12 miles to hear these illustrious men talk. Yours Rev Jasper Miller

Bustleton, Philadelphia, Pa. 9/2/30.

Mr. Jasper Miller,
Assumption, Illinois.
Dear Sir:

In a recent issue of the Lerna "Eagle", which the publisher Mr.Adolf Sumerlin, was good enough to send me, I saw mention made of the fact that you remembered Abraham Lincoln. I am always greatly interested whenever I read anything pertaining to our martyred president, particularly by one who saw him in the flesh.

It might be of interest to you to say that for a number of years I have been writing to folks who knew Mr. Lincoln personally or who saw him. I have many letters from men and women in all parts of the country telling of some incident in their life as it came in contact with that of "Honest Abe". These letters I am carefully preserving so that future generations might have all the first hand information it is possible to acquire. So much happened in those early days which we do not read in books.

Would it be expecting too much of you, sir, to ask you to write me your recollections of Lincoln? I shall greatly appreciate a line from you, and your letter will be added to my ever-increasing collection of Lincolniana.

Allow me to congratulate you upon your long life and honorable career. May you be spared many more years.

Thanking you for any courtesy you might extend to me, I am

Yours sincerely,

Howard K. Terry

9528 Wisteria St.

Howard K. Terry.

P.S. Should you know of anyone who remembers Lincoln, I should be very glad to get their name and address. H.K.T.

Miner, Mrs. B. D. Farmington, Ill. Charleston, Ill.
Kissed by L.

Charleston Ill. Sep 6, 1930.

Mr. Howard K. Jerry,
9528 Hysteria St
Burdleton
Philadelphia
Penna.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of the 2nd requsting the address of my sister (Mrs B D Miner who was kissed by Abraham Lincoln) is as follows - 3915 N Pennsylvania Ave, Indianapolis Ind.

I had two Sisters and two brothers who were old enough to attend school at the village of Farmington at that time who got to see Lincoln as well as my father. When my mother came here from Penn. in 1834 her nearest neighbor was Thomas Lincoln and for several months carried water for family use from his house. If there is any thing else you wish to know, let me know as I havent time to write more at this time. yours very truly,

A B Ellison

Mitchell, N. Y.

L.-D. Debates
Freeport, Ill.

Freeport, Ill.

Freeport Ill
Sept 10th 1891

Dear Mr Terry

Dear Sir

Received your letter I Saw Abraham Lincoln & Steven A Douglas in the debate in Freeport can mined the Defenses in the build of the men I was 15 years of Age and a Farme Boy and the crowed Was more to me than the Polictecan Question for at that time we had a Small county to what we have now And thought Nothing of wag in 3 Years we had Ox teames Mule teams Horse teames at this Great convention So little did I think in 3 years Abraham Would call on me to go to war I went Out Sept 10th 1861 Discharged Feb 2nd 1866 Serving 4 years & 4 Months I was in the 40th Ill co B John A Davis was one of if we had more men like Lincoln If your can get any thyng of this all right Yours Truly N L Mitchell

Montgomery, James Perry Springfield, Ill. Mason City, Ill.
Funeral - part of
military escort

Full Name James Perry Montgomery
Present Address Mason City Ill.
Date of Birth Year 1841 Month October Day 8th
Place of Birth Sugar Grove, Menard Co.
Where you saw Lincoln Springfield Ill.
When you Saw Lincoln The 8th of Aug. 1860
Remarks:- & I Co. D. 146 Infl. was escort
when Lincoln was put in the temporary
tomb. at Springfield this Co. of which
I belonged.

Montgomery, James Perry — Mason City, Ill.

Mason City, Ill.,

Sept.7, 1932

Mrs.W.R.Spear,

Yoder, Ind.

Dear Friend:

Enclosed you will find a sketch of my interview with Mr.Montgomery.Hope it will prove satisfactory for the dedication. It may not be just what you would like but I did not want to tire him to much by having him talk too long.

He is getting along quite well from his accident.I really believe now that he will get alright.I was worried at first for fear of his age.

All here are well.Ninas mother is quite sick and she went this morning to spend several days with her.Harriet is with her aunt for a couple of weeks.Carrol is taking a post graduate course in the Mason City high school.With the cut in wages that I received from the passed economy bill and with what I am afraid I will get when Congress meets again,we did not think we could afford to send him away this year.Maybe by next year things will be better.

Hoping that my efforts with the Lincoln stories will prove helpful, I am

Very truly yours,

Harry L Agnew

Sept.7, 1932

Mrs. "R.Speer,

"Oden", Ind.

Dear Friend:

Inclosed you will find a check of my interview with Mr. Roseboro. Hope it will prove satisfactory for the dedication. It may not be just what you would like but I did not want to take his time to much by having him talk too long.

He is getting along quite well from his accident. I really believe now that he will get alright. I was worried at first for fear of his arm.

All here are well. Mina Mosher is quite sick and she went this morning to spend several da s with her. Bertie is with her aunt for a couple of weeks. Carrol is taking a post graduate course in the Mason City High School. With the out in wages that I received for the leased economy bill and with what I am afraid I will get when Commerce meets again, we did not think we could afford to send him away this year. Maybe by next year things will be better.

Hoping that Ly "Oden" with the Lincoln aloxites will prove helpful, I am

Very truly yours,

Montgomery, James Perry

Yoder, Indiana
Sept. 12, 1932

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is an account of an interview obtained from Mr. J. P. Montgomery, who fell about two weeks ago and broke his hip and will be unable to attend the dedication.

We hope you will be able to use it, if only in a bit of publicity.

Mrs. J. W. Smith has journeyed from Homestead, Oklahoma to Havana and if she is able will come some time this week in order to be here Friday for the dedication.

She is a sister of the Duff Armstrong mentioned in the write-up, a good christian character and respected and beloved by all who knew her in her home community near Mason City.

She will probably bring records in their possession pertaining to Abraham Lincoln.

Very Truly
Mrs. P. W. Spear

Montgomery, James Perry Mason City, Ill.

Report of interview of J.P.Montgomery,Mason City,Illinois,by a representive of the Associated Press for the dedication of "Lincoln The Hoosier"at Ft."ayne Ind.

James Perry Montgomery,92 year old Civil War Veteran of Mason City Illinois,was interviewed by a representive of the Associated Press on Sept.3,1932 for the purpose of gaining Lincoln stories for the reading of a paper at this dedication.

This aged veteran enlisted in Co."D"146th Illinois Infantry at Springfield Illinois and saw service until mustered out long after the close of the War. Mr.Montgomery tells the following story of the trial of Duff Armstrong at Beardstown in 1857,whom Lincoln defended,whioh refutes the fanciful story of historians that Linoo^n changed pages inan almanac of that year,to prove his point.

The story: Peter Cartwright,circuit rider,was conducting a revival at a Camp Meeting being held in Virgins Grove,which is about five miles southwest of Mason City.Because it was against the law to sell whiskey within a mile of a camp meeting, a saloon keeper from Chandlerville,Illinois,had erected a crude affair for a saloon a little over a mile away.

This saloon was not far from the Armstrong home,and Duff,who was then considered a wild boy,had been drinking at the place for several days.On the night of Aug.29, 1857 Armstrong had lain down on a benoh made of a saw mill slab,near the saloon, and had gone to sleep.At some time near eleven oclock that night a man by the name of Metzker came along and grabbing him by the feet and pulled him off the bench. This act led to an argument and hot words and finaly Metzker invited Armstrong to have another drink.They both went inside the saloon and standing up to the bar ordered whiskey.As Armstrong raised his glass to his lips,Metzker threw his glass of whiskey in Armstrongs face.Armstrong wiped the whiskey off on his sleeve and as soon as his eyes cleared enough to see,he struck Metzker a terrifio blow in the face with his fist,which knocked him down.Before he ooud arise Armstrong would have kicked him about the head,but for the interferance of the bartender.Metzker still wanted to fight and the bartender gave him a pint of whiskey to get him to go home.He was finaly loaded on his horse and started toward home,which was with a family for whom he worked.The next morning he appeared sick,but the family seeing him in such oondition on previous occasions when he was sobering up thought nothing of it.Five days later Metzker died.An autopsy was made by doctors and a coroners jury brought a verdiot of "death from a blow over the eye by what appeared to be a blunt instrument".

Armstrong was arrested and at the trial an eye witnes was produced that said he had seen the fight by the light of the moon shing almost straight overhead,or where the sun would be located at about ten oclock.This witness also swore that he saw Armstrong strike Metzker with a sling shot.Lincoln was a very close friend of the Armstrong family and came to the trial to defend young Duff.During the taking of testimony Lincoln obtained an almanac for that year and showed that,instead of the moon shining in the sky at about straight overhead at eleven oclock,that the moon had gone down out of sight at three minutes before midnight. Lincoln proved by the almanac that there was not enought light by whioh a murder could be competently witnessed and the jury found Armstrong "not guilty".

Mr.Montgomery says that he had attended the camp meeting on that evening,and when the meeting broke ~~A~~ about ten oclock,the moon was shining but hung very low in the heavens and soon dissepeared.At the time of the fight he says it would have been impossible for the witness to have seen the fight clearly by the light of the moon.

Another story attributed to Lincoln and disclaimed by Mr.Montgomery was the sewing of hogs eyes shut at New Salem.This incident happened while Lincoln was a resident of New Salem,the settlement on the bluffs of the Sangamon River near where Petersburg Illinois,is now located,a group of men were trying to load a drove of hogs on a river barge.Some of the hogs were contrary and after several fruitless attempts to drive them on board their eyes were sewed shut so that they could not see where they were going.It is claimed by some writers that Lincoln did the sewing. Mr.Montgomery says that Lincoln had nothing to do with this affair and that the deed was committed by a man by name of Bracken.

The last event in which the lives of Mr.Lincoln and Mr.Montgomery was closely associated was at the first buriel of Lincolns body at ~~xxxx~~ the tomb in Springfield after the assissination.Co."D"of the 146thinfantry was chosen as the guard of honor for the body and Mr.Montgomerys position was at the right side of the casket about three feet from the head.

The writer is sorry to say that Mr.Montgomery is now confined to his bed with a fractured hip,sustained in a fall at his home on August 15,1932.On the date of the writing of this article,Sept.7,Mr.Montgomery shows much improvement.

He sends his greetings to this vast assemblage,and says he would have considered it a high honor to have been present had it been possible for him to do so.

Montgomery, S. B.,

Quincy, Ill. - Addresses

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THE PHŒNIX INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

LITTLE & SHINDEL
RESIDENT AGENTS
RUSHVILLE, ILLS.

1/6/32

My dear Mr Terry:

So many old residents here who had seen Lincoln and some who had known him have passed away lately there are very few remaining. I've talked to Wm H. Nelson. He thinks that also Robt Rippetoe & Michael Doce & Hiram D. Raff should also remember something of Lincoln's practising law in our courts and addressing a political rally here Oct 20 1858. Judge S. B. Montgomery now of Quincy Ill (N. C. U. Bldg) has told me he remembers some incidents of the address. — I am glad to know you are collecting these reminiscences. You must be getting some important facts.

I've so far written nothing on Lincoln. My collection is quite modest as to size. I've sacrificed numbers to concentrate on getting autograph letters and association copies of books, autographs of his associates and of his biographers. I've some books in the M.S. and some limited to 5 or 6 copies. I have many books from the Mr. N. Lambert and the J. E. Burton Lincoln collections. I wish I might show them to you.

(over)

I've been quite inactive last few years. In fact this depression has caused so many readers I may have to sell my library. Am cataloging it now

With all good wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

John S. Tittle

Morian, B. W. Dunkirk, N.Y. Train Platform West Hartford, Conn.

June - 18, 1931.
24 N. Drucker Lane
West Hartford Conn.

My dear Mrs. Terry.

In reply to your letter concerning my meeting Abraham Lincoln.
I was born in Fredonia N. Y. - 1848.
which is three miles from Dunkirk N.Y.
where the N.Y. Central R.R. has its station.
I shook hands with Abraham Lincoln on the platform of a car at this station when I was 14 years old. I went there with my grandfather who was a politician. Being small for my age I was able to make my way through the crowd to the car.
I also sat on the platform with Stephen A. Douglas, going there with my grandfather.
My grandfather was in the war of 1812.

Yours truly.

B. W. Morian

Morrow, B. D. Springfield, Ill. - Burial Mattoon, Ill.

2412 Prairie Ave.,

Mattoon, Ill. July 29, 1931.

Mr. F. L. Terry

Bustleton, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 24th inst reached me here yesterday, and replying thereto will say in relation to the last burial of the body of President Lincoln that I was present and viewed the body.

I never saw Lincoln in life. Since coming to this city some weeks ago, I gave an interview to a reporter for "The Daily Journal-Gazette" of this city, a copy of which I enclose to you. This sets for the main features and incidents relative to the matter referred to and will perhaps answer your purpose, though it includes matter personal to myself which should not have been included and has no place in so sacred a subject as pertains to the burial of our immortal Lincoln. I request that you return this clipping to me when you are through with it

The face of Lincoln when presented to view was white a Chalk and perfectly preserved, even the Adam Apple in the neck was intact; his collar cravat, shirt bosom, vest and Coat were also in a perfect state of preservation. All o ther matters are set forth fairly well in the clipping.

I do not know how many of the persons present at that interview are now living. I know that Moses O. Williamson then State treasurer, is now living in Galesburg Ill. Jacob Thompson whom you refer to, and who you have had correspondence, lives in Springfield. Ill. All o thers I do not know wether living or dead. I do know, of course, that General Duce, Geo. N. Black, Mr. Linley, Mr. Conkling, the Supt. of Publ ic Instruction (whose name I cannot now recall) are dead. The boy referred to in the clipping, and whose name I do not remember, I suppose lives in Springfield. Mr. Hopkins the plumber who opend the leaden Casket in which the body of Lincoln rested, lives

in Springfield Ill. in about the 600 block S. New Street. But Mr. Jacob Thompson has doubtless given you his name and address.

Now this information and that contained in the clipping is about all I know ~~about~~ in relation to the subject.

Please do not forget to return the clipping to me.

Very truly yours

B. F. Monroe

209 Prairie Ave.,

Mattoon, Illinois.

Mortimer, Caroline Lindsey

Its name indicates its character

The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Fort Wayne, Indiana

R. GERALD MCMURTRY
DIRECTOR

April 10, 1957

Mrs. Sadie Kay
1334 Van Ness
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Kay:

I have your letter of March 31 and I am interested to learn that you have found a story in your mother's papers about how her father secured Mr. Lincoln to defend him in a law suite at Danville, Illinois in 1835.

According to your story Mr. Lincoln came to the Danville Court after riding three days on horseback and after two days in court was able to win the case. I note that you state that Mr. Lincoln gave your grandfather a $20.00 receipt and saved your grandfather's home.

This paper would certainly be of great interest in ~~your~~ our museum. If you should place it here hundreds of people would have an opportunity to see it and scholars and writers would have it available for research. Perhaps someday this story might be incorporated in some new biography that will be published concerning Lincoln.

You asked would this paper be of any value to us. It certainly would, how do we go about acquiring it?

I am quite eager to hear from you again.

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

dh

Director

I am 86 years young.

July 15 - 1957

Dear Mr. Mc Murtry.

Here is my Precious paper written many years ago by my mother. Caroline Lindsey Mortimer

Sadie Kay

July 18, 1957

Mrs. Sadie Kay
1334 Van Ness
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Kay:

Yesterday I received the Lincoln paper written many years ago by your mother, Caroline Lindsey Mortimer. I read this paper with a great deal of interest and I am delighted to have it to place in our research files.

Many thanks for sending us this fine item.

Yours sincerely,

RGM:sh

R. Gerald McMurtry

Dear Friends of the Brownwood Twin Club

I went to tell you how old Lincoln, saved my father from losing his first farm. it was in 1835 - near Danville Ills, father at that time was a school teacher in the winter time and working on a farm in summer, there was an 80 acre tract of land near the school house that he had the chance to buy and took. with the help of kind neighbors he soon had a good two roomed log house built and made many other improvements, after working on the place for three years, one day he received a notice that his deed to the property was no good, that it had to go to a Certain Land Co. but, as he had improved the place, they would give him a good deed to it for the sum of 300,00 dollars. father was very much upset by such a piece of news. as he often said, all his Scotch Irish blood was boiling hot. he went to see the man who had sold the land to him, and after talking things over, they concluded it was a fraudulent attempt to rob them. Let the other men sue, Mr. Lindsey you fight them and I will stand back of you, for it your deed is not good mine is not either. father went to Danville, to see a lawyer. he knew, and told him the trouble, the lawyer said I don't know much about land title in Illinois. but I can tell you where to find a man that does know, go out to Springfield and get Abe Lincoln for he know more about such things than any other man in Illinois

father started for Springfield as soon as he could.
and it was a three days journey on horse back. for
there was no Railroad at that time in Illinois when
he got to Springfield and found the Lincoln office,
no one was in, but a man stretching close said
Lincoln was at home digging his potatoes. father
thought it was a funny business that had to dig
potatoes, but the man directed him to Lincolns
home and he went to the door —
the children said he was digging the potatoes,
so father went and found him to the house, as soon
as father told him his business he said "
"
and that he would be glad to take it case,
[illegible] they made all necessary
[illegible] Lincoln said he wanted to
[illegible] Lincoln telling the [illegible]
of such robbery of
honest working men, all Lincoln like father
had to ride horse back three days to reach Danville
from Springfield, he spent two days there in Court
looking after the case, and then had to ride three
days back home and his bill was 20.00 and he
gave a written receipt signing his name of Lincoln.
years after my brother had this receipt framed and hung
up in his own office.

My father did not meet Abe Lincoln any more
time in 1860, after he had been nominated for President,
the men were threatning and when after rest of the
nomination, he was so glad they the night morn
for one, he told Mother when he got the papers telling
of what the Republicans had done, at that time
we were living near Paris Ills for father had sold
his small farm, and bought a large one in Edgar
County. I remember so well when he bought that place
we had been living in Indiana in a three roomed
house we had a good time in it, but when father
came home from a trip to Ills he said he had
bought a house with 5 or 6 rooms in it and painted
white it seemed like a palace to us Children.
I have always loved a white house ever since,
along in the fall after Lincoln was nominated, the
folks in Edgar Co got up a big Lincoln Parade and
Ab Lincoln came and spoke for them, that was
before we girls made the flag to carry in the Parade.
for you could not buy a flag at that time, so we
made one a lot of young ladies rode horseback on
white horses with red and white streamers around their
horses necks, and the rest of us in wagons and
carriges and they put Ab Lincoln at the head of the
procession and they put the home pronel me all over and how
the boys yell for Lincoln.

after the speaking was over, a crowd gathered
about the Lincolns to shake hands, father among
them when father went to shake hands the Lincolns
ask the committee man who he was, connected to
his name his but, the Lincolns said "you don't
know us, we introduce this little old Kentuckian
to me for I have known him for years", then he
put his hands on father's shoulders and said
"well Sam I have not seen you, getting along now
father, I left he never did dare to have
the pleasure with him of name,
at 12 inauguration in 1861 Mr Lincoln opened the
Bible at the 121 psalm and kissed it but verse saying
it was on his mother taught him when he was a child,
I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from
whence cometh my help. my help cometh from
the Lord who made heaven and earth,

Carolin Lindsay Chastain

Moyer, William — Washington, D.C. White House — Houston, Ohio

104

93

" I saw Lincoln "

Full Name William [illegible]

Present Address Houston R.F.D. #8

Date of Birth Year 1853 Month [illegible] Day 17

Place of Birth [illegible] Co. Ohio

Where you saw Lincoln [illegible]

When you saw Lincoln 1865 [illegible] ?

Remarks: -

Moyer, William , Houston, Ohio

LINCOLN NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT
Referred to
REC'D AUG 27 1932
Answered D
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Houston, Ohio
R. R. #3
August 26, 1932

The Lincoln National Life
Foundation
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sirs:
While looking at
the Dayton Daily News for
Sunday August 21st we
saw where you were
looking for the oldest
person in Ohio who had
seen or talked to Lincoln.
I am 93 years old,

being born July 17th 1839 and
am one day older than
Mr. Bails of Dayton whose
picture was in the paper.

I saw Pres. Lincoln in
Washington while on duty
~~in 1865~~. I was in the
Civil War and was with
the 124th Infantry from
Indiana.

I fought my last battle
at Goldburry N. Carolina
after seeing Lincoln at
Washington.

If you wish any more
information please write me.

William Mayer
Xenia, Ohio
R. R. #3

Munhall, L. W. L.-D. Debates - Charleston, Ill. Philadelphia, Pa.

Cincinnati

THE METHODIST

FORMERLY "EASTERN METHODIST"

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

L. W. MUNHALL

236 HARVEY ST., GERMANTOWN PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE

BELL PHONE, GERMANTOWN 4863

The Methodist Church is a Christian Democracy. The Methodist is uncompromisingly opposed to any ecclesiastical autocracy, and all church politics. :: :: ::

A real Methodist paper, standing for the Bible as the infallible and authoritative Word of God, and for the doctrines and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church

February 7, 1931.

Howard K. Terry,
Bustleton, Phil'a, Pa.

Dear Sir: My recollections of Mr Lincoln have never been printed. I heard Mr Lincoln make a speech in Cincinnati, in 1858. I was in Charleston, Coles County Illinois the day of the Lincoln and Douglas debate.

I have never met Mr Gibson. I should like to meet you.

Sincerely thine, L. W. Munhall.

Munhall, Mr. Sylvanus Cass — Urbana, Ill. L.-D. Debate — Watseka, Ill.

MUNHALL, SYLVANUS CASS

"I SAW LINCOLN"

Full Name Sylvanus Cass Munhall

Present Address Watseka, Illinois

Date of Birth Year 1841 Month January Day 26

Place of Birth Carleton, Ohio

Where you saw Lincoln Urbana, Ill. Monticello, Ill.

When you saw Lincoln June, 1858 Aug. 1858

Remarks:-

Heard him address jurors. Heard Lincoln Douglas debate
Heard all of seven Debates. Discussed all seven debates
Cyclopedia under Debates pleasure by Lincoln and Heard H.
Lawson, Debate attorney at Urbana, Ill

Muzzy,... Milwaukee, Wis.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF NATIONAL HOMES
NORTHWESTERN BRANCH

NATIONAL HOME, WISCONSIN
March 9, 1931

To Mr. Howard K. Terry, 9528 Wisteria Street, Bustleton, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

SUBJECT:

My dear Mr. Terry:

A number of our Civil War veterans in Company "B" advised me that you wrote to them, asking them to tell you of their recollections of Abraham Lincoln. These men, as you know, are advanced in years and have become loquacious in speaking about the Civil War days. When I listen to them, I often wonder at the authenticity of their statements. I should dislike giving you their stories, only to find that they were not accurate.

A short time ago, a reporter covered this Company and the attached story was published in one of our newspapers. I am thinking that it covers their experiences very well, and wonder whether you could not use this story. If it is not what you wish, will you kindly let me know and I shall be glad to interview one or two for you, but twenty-two are too many for me to cover. Their experiences are much alike, and each would like me to spend a whole afternoon with him in an individual interview.

Very truly yours,

Stella Kerschensteiner

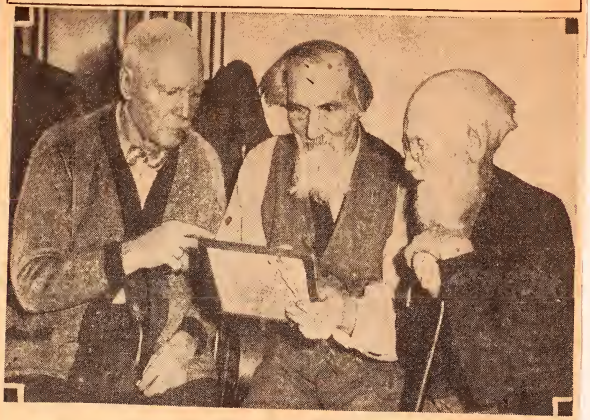
(Miss) Stella Kerschensteiner
Medical Social Worker

Approved:

Surgeon

smk/es
att

They Fought for Lincoln



—By a Wisconsin News Staff Photographer.

CHARLES MUZZY T. J. SCHAFFNER. SIMEON HERRING.

With the celebration in Milwaukee today of the 122d anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, these Civil war veterans, now inmates of the National Soldiers' home, meet to talk over the days when they knew and fought for the great emancipator. Muzzy, 89; Schaffner, 93, and Herring, 84, are looking at a picture of Lincoln, as they recall the historic past.

2/12/3

Vets at Soldiers' Home Recall Lincoln

To at least a score of the 150 Civil war veterans at the Soldiers' Home here, Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday the world today is celebrating, is not a mere figure in history, but a departed friend.

Bernard O'Brien, 87, who was a private in Company B, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry—Milwaukee's own Zouaves—remembers well a visit of the Great Emancipator to his hospital cot after he had been seriously wounded at Mary's Heights.

"Young man," said Lincoln, "if you get well when you go home I want you to come back. We need men like you."

"And come back I did," says O'Brien. "I told Abe: 'I'll be back inside of a month—and I was.'"

DISTANT RELATIVE.

Simeon Herring, 84, who claims distant relationship to the martyr president, also has a vivid recollection of "Honest Abe."

Herring served with the Eighth Illinois cavalry, on duty at Washington, D. C.

"President Lincoln often used to walk out to our camp about 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning to meditate," he says. "Sometimes he would kneel in prayer."

Thomas Schaffner, 93, who served in Co. B, Eighty-seventh Indiana infantry, of the Fourteenth Army corps, says he voted twice for Lincoln and "wishes it could have been three times."

VOTED FOR LINCOLN.

"Every one loved President Abe," said Charles Muzzy, 89. "He was always interested in the common soldiers and after every great battle he would visit the camps and chat with the men. Every one loved him and would have died for him."

Muzzy served in Co. B, Seventh Wisconsin infantry, part of the famous "Iron Brigade."

24 Cities and Towns Called Lincoln; One Christened by Him

LINCOLN, Ill., Feb. 12—(AP)—Twenty-four American cities and towns bear the name of Lincoln, but only one—Lincoln, Ill., received its name during the lifetime of the emancipator and had the honor of being christened—with the cutting of a watermelon — by Lincoln himself.

"All right boys, go ahead, but I think you're making a mistake; nothing named Lincoln, so far as I know, ever amounted to much."

That was Lincoln's rejoinder to the proposal of three of his friends to give the name of Lincoln to this newly laid out town in central Illinois. The date was 1853 and Lincoln was an obscure rural lawyer.

Myers, Mrs. John T.

Gettysburg Address
Relative of Judge Wills

Maylan, Pa.

ISAAC R. PENNYPACKER, CHAIRMAN, ARDMORE
WM. A. MARCH, SECRETARY, NORRISTOWN
THEODORE LANE BEAN, NORRISTOWN
W. HERBERT BURK, VALLEY FORGE
ISAAC H. CLOTHIER, JR., RADNOR
FRED F. HALLOWELL, WAYNE
RICHARD H. KOCH, POTTSVILLE

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ALBERT COOK MYERS, MOYLAN
M. T. PHILLIPS POMEROY
WILLIAM PROVOST, JR., CHESTER
MRS. JENNIE C. RITTER, ALLENTOWN
JOHN R. K. SCOTT, LINCOLN BLDG., PHILADELPHIA
JOSEPH E. WIDENER, LAND TITLE BLDG., PHILADELPHIA
CHAS. E. DORWORTH, SEC'Y OF FORESTS AND WATERS HARRISBURG (MEMBER EX-OFFICIO)

VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION
OFFICE:
VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

February 16 1928
Moylan, Penna

Dear Sir:

I answer for my mother, Mrs. John T. Myers, who thanks for your kind letter. She is in her 85 th year and writes to her children but she is far from being keen about publicity. The best account of her recently as to her Lincoln experience at Gettysburg is in the Ledger of last Sunday.

She shook hands with Lincoln in the home of her kinsman Judge Wills in Gettysburg, where he stayed over night, and then went to the cemetery, sat on the platform and heard his speech.

She is well and active

with all of her faculties, ~~and~~
reads books and the papers
and is busy planting rag rugs
for her family.

Very truly yours
Albert Cook Myers

LETTERS - M DRAWER 26 MEETING LINCOLN